

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 (Currently amended): [[A]] An apparatus for use with a stringed instrument pick having a grip end portion on a first surface comprising:

- a) a relatively thin piece of material having the following properties:
 - (i) resists sliding and promotes gripping by human fingers;
 - (ii) is applicable to said gripping portion on said first surface.

Claim 2 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the piece of material is adapted to be adhered to a gripping portion of a pick.

Claim 3 (Original): The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the material is adapted for removable adhesion to a pick.

Claim 4 (Original): The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the removable adhesion is by cohesion and/or surface tension.

Claim 5 (Original): The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the cohesion is without residue if removed.

Claim 6 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is adapted to be sized and shaped so that it does not substantially change the size, shape, mass, or function of a pick.

Claim 7 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is sized and shaped to fit within perimeter dimensions of a pick.

Claim 8 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material can be retrofitted to an existing pick.

Claim 9 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is adaptable to a variety of sizes and shapes of picks.

Claim 10 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is rubbery-like having a substantially tacky exterior and is flexible.

Claim 11 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is made from liquid silicon, liquid plastic, or liquid latex.

Claim 12 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material is moldable.

Claim 13 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one side of the material is smooth.

Claim 14 (Original): The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the other side of the material has some texture, is roughened, or is mottled.

Claim 15 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material has a central thickness variance.

Claim 16 (Original): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the central thickness variance is either a raised portion or a depression.

Claim 17 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the material has a thickness on the order of or less than the thickness of a pick to which it is to be applied.

Claim 18 (Original): The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the thickness of the material is approximately from 0.6 mm to 1.0 mm.

Claim 19 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the perimeter dimensions of the material include approximately 26.5 mm at its widest and 18 mm in length.

Claim 20 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a second piece of material adapted for application to a gripping portion on a second surface of a pick.

Claim 21 (Original): The apparatus of claim 1 in combination with a stringed instrument pick.

Claim 22 (Original): A stringed instrument pick system comprising:

- a) a stringed instrument pick having a gripping portion on a first surface;
- b) a relatively thin piece of material which resists sliding and promotes grip by human fingers removably applicable to said gripping portion on said first surface.

Claim 23 (Original): The system of claim 22 further comprising a relatively thin piece of material which resists sliding, promotes grip of human fingers applicable to a gripping portion on a second surface of the pick.

Claim 24 (Original): The system of claim 22 wherein the material is cohesive to the gripping portion, and is shaped to fit within perimeter dimensions of the first surface of the pick.

Claim 25 (Original): A method of improving gripability of a stringed instrument pick comprising:

- a) applying a material to a gripping portion on a first surface of the pick which is relatively thin, resists sliding and promotes gripping by human fingers, and is shaped and sized to fit within perimeter dimensions of the pick;
- b) grip the pick with at least one finger in contact with the material on the gripping portion of the first surface.

Claim 26 (Original): The method of claim 25 wherein the material is removably cohesively applied to the gripping portion.

Claim 27 (Original): The method of claim 25 wherein the material does not materially effect size, shape, mass, function or pliability of the pick.

Claim 28 (Original): A method of making an apparatus for use with a stringed instrument pick to increase gripability of the pick comprising:

- a) form a mold having a shape which roughly approximates the shape of the gripping portion of a stringed instrument pick;
- b) place into the mold a liquid material, the liquid material being formed of liquid silicone, plastic, or latex;
- c) heat the material in the mold at approximately 470°F for approximately 8 minutes;
- d) cooling the material in the mold at approximately 66 to 75°F for approximately 4 to 6 minutes;
- e) remove the material from the mold.

Claim 29 (New): An apparatus for use with a stringed instrument pick having a grip end portion on a first surface comprising:

- a) a piece of material having the following properties:
 - (i) resists sliding and promotes gripping by human fingers;
 - (ii) is applicable to said gripping portion on said first surface; and
 - (iii) is adapted for removable adhesion to a pick.